

State of Illinois JB Pritzker, Governor



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Construction on Interstate 55 between Carlinville and Litchfield resumes this week

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Department of Transportation announced that construction on Interstate 55 between the Litchfield and Carlinville interchanges resumes this week. Work begins this week with nighttime lane closures for patching. Complete lane reductions are planned to begin April 1.

During this construction, I-55 will be restricted to one lane in each direction, with the use of median crossovers and a temporary concrete barrier wall. There will also be lane closures for paving and other activities. Work is expected to be completed in late October.

This work, a portion of which was completed in 2021, is part of a \$34.2 million project that involves rehabilitation work on eight bridges and 7.4 miles of resurfacing along this stretch of I-55. Due to a railroad abandoning a track, a bridge will be removed and filled with embankment and pavement. This will eliminate the deteriorated bridge and replace it with durable pavement at less expense than a new bridge.

Motorists can expect delays and should allow extra time for trips through this area. To avoid the work area, when feasible, use of alternate routes should be considered. Drivers are urged to pay close attention to changed conditions and signs in the work zones, obey the posted speed limits, refrain from using mobile devices and be alert for workers and equipment.

Over the next six years, IDOT is planning to improve more than 3,500 miles of highway and 9 million square feet of bridge deck as part of the Rebuild Illinois capital program, which is investing \$33.2 billion into all modes of transportation. Accomplishments through Year Two included approximately \$5.2 billion of improvements statewide on 3,020 miles of highway, 270 bridges and 428 additional safety improvements.

For IDOT District 6 updates, follow us on Twitter at <u>@IDOTDistrict6</u> or view area construction details on IDOT's traveler information map on GettingAroundIllinois.com.